

ZERO BEAT

HAMPDEN COUNTY RADIO ASSOCIATION, INC.

Springfield, Mass.

ARRL Affiliated, 31st Year

October, 1979

HAMPDEN COUNTY RADIO ASSN.

ANNUAL AUCTION

Friday, Oct. 6, 1979

Feeding Hills
Congregational Church

Corner routes 57 and 187
Feeding Hills, Mass.
(West of Springfield)

7:00 - 11:00 PM

Auction Rules

Clearly label all items with your name and/or call.

Club takes 10% of all sales.

No minimums. Seller bids to protect own item. No charge if the seller buys the item.

Club donations should be labeled as such.

Seller guarantees the item, not the club.

The club reserves the right to refuse or move to the end of the line items that most people would regard as "JUNK"

It is in your own self interest to support the auction. After the Board of Directors set the Budget for this season, we were hit with an increase in the cost of the hall rental from \$15 to \$35. Instead of a total hall rental of \$170 the bill now will be \$410.

We need your support at the auction. Bring a friend, spread the word. Bring two or more items to sell or donate. It will take everyone doing a little Bit.

If our finances remain low, the Board will probably cut back on Zero Beat since this is our major expense every year.

SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

The second SET of 1979 is planned for the weekend of October 6th and 7th. This will be the forerunner of the annual SET which will take place annually in the fall of each year.

This is an opportunity for all hams to brush up on net procedures or to learn net procedures.

All hams could find these procedures to be very helpful one day when there would be no time to stop and learn emergency procedures.

All hams are encouraged to check in during the weekend using emergency power if possible and all stations are encouraged to initiate messages.

Two nets will be conducted locally several times each day with actual times to be announced.

A CW net will operate on 3562 ~~kHz~~ and the Western Mass Emergency Phone Net will operate on its usual frequency of 3935 ~~kHz~~ and most likely will use local repeaters to provide 2 meter F.M. coverage.

For more information, please see the September, 1979, QST.

NET NEWS

The HCRA net is back on Monday nites at 8:00 p.m. local time at 28650 MHz. Please join in and make the net a success. We will also be looking for Net Control Stations.

HAMPDEN COUNTY RADIO ASSN. INC.
SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

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WHO CARES ABOUT THOSE DAMN ISLANDS?

Friday night, August 31st, I tuned into the Hurricane Net on 14300 mHz to listen to the reports being given to the West Indies on the path of hurricane David. I sat for hours listening to net control, WA1KKP, Lynn, and others doing an heroic job controlling the net and providing info to distressed stations throughout the West Indies whose only communications was amateur radio. I shut down my receiver late Friday nite and returned to it in the early hours Saturday morning to hear the same net control station still doing a magnificent job as she was to do for many days to come.

Saturday and Sunday wore on with David moving through Hispaniola and Eastern Cuba and towards Great Inagua, Acklins Island, Andros Island, the Bahamas and Southeastern Florida.

Emergency aid such as medical supplies and food were coordinated through amateur radio - ships at sea were helped by amateur radio - communications were provided where needed. On Sunday, an amateur radio operator and a station were flown to Dominica, which had been severely damaged and which had absolutely no communications.

It is now Monday evening, Lynn and many others are still at their posts having survived David and many, many hours of abuse from hams broadcasting slurs and derogatory comments such as: "This is nonsense," "She must be drunk." "Get off this frequency, stupid." And the carriers - there did not seem to be a dummy load in the Western Hemisphere.

During all this I concluded that many amateur radio operators completely embarrassed the amateur radio service and did a great deal to discredit the good being done by a dedicated group offering completely of themselves to help those suffering misfortune. The most repugnant transmission came Monday afternoon when the epitome of a lid broadcast "Who cares about those damn islands."

My response to that unidentified station: I do!

Paul, WA1ZKT
Editor

WELCOME

We welcome the following eight new members to HCRA:

Richard Behrens KA1CTM
Steve Nelson WA1EYF
Bill Lowe W1TM
Raymond Burk WB1GLX
Ric Hillenbrand WA1WRK
Ed Pepyne N1ASC
Bob Barr K1ZPJ
Sebastian Orifice WB1GAT

We trust that they will find the HCRA as helpful and enjoyable as the rest of us do.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"The letter in Sept., 1979 Zero Beat brought back many memories of 'Bill' Blankenship, Jr. Here are a couple more remembrances:.....

"Bill was one of the instigators and fireballs of the HCRC sponsorship of the ARRL New England Convention here in Springfield. It is one of the Club's great accomplishments.

"Another! - With Channel 6 - New Haven putting a blizzard signal up this way, the only TV signal coming this way. Bill was one of those stouthearted hams who fought tooth and nail against TVI from their rigs. Then New Haven changed to Channel 8. Springfield hams wound up with the cleanest rigs in the country.

"The second item! I met W1BVB on Mt. Tom repeater the other night.

"The first person to have called W1BVB was Don Fancher of Westerly, R.I. shortly after World War I. Incidentally, Don got me interested in ham radio. He took us over to New London, Conn. one June day in his brass bound Model T Ford. Walter Butterworth was the examiner. My call was 1ACT.

"Don dropped out of ham radio. On retirement as a motion picture operator, he went back to his old love. He was issued the same call - W1BVB. I had the honor of talking with him on 75 phone.

"Today Don is a 'silent key'. Now Henry Moore in Northampton, Mass. has been issued the call.

"Seems like old calls never die. They are given to another deserving ham who seems to be holding on to a sacred trust. They are the keepers of fire."

73's

Myles W. Brennan - W1MOK

ZERO BEAT

All material to be published in Zero Beat must be in the Editor's hands by the 15th of the month to appear in the next issue of Zero Beat.

DUES

Your dues to HCRA can be renewed by mail.....see page 2 of Zero Beat for the Treasurer's address. A SASE would be appreciated. The label on your Zero Beat will tell you when your membership expires.

FOR SALE

Ten Tec Century/21 70 Watt Transceiver
Xtal Control 25/100
Auto Key Like New
W1EMB, Joe Dumais Re2-0584
After 5:00 p.m.

20 Meter Quad. \$40.00
Gent Lam W1CQF 737-9426

Car Battery can be used for car or portable power supply. \$20.
W1PUX, Bruce Felper, 15 Celar Lane,
Unionville, Ct. 06085 203-673-6324
Or see me at Club meeting.

SX-99 rcvr, needs some work, \$25;
Heath HRA-10-1 xtal calibrator for
HW-100, 101, 12,22,32 etc., \$10;
utility stereo amp/preamp, \$15;
misc. aluminum tubing to make 10 or
15 m beam, \$25; mast sections 21 and
12 ft., with bracket; CDR rotator
with 100 ft 4 cond. ribbon, needs new
winding; Misco MS3BB 3" speaker, good
for mobile, \$7.50. Call Paul,
W1ETH, 533-0674.

NOTICE

RT 91 call boxes are out of order and are expected to be out of order for a year. If you see a stranded motorist, please stop and call for the STATE POLICE, since the call boxes do not indicate that they are not working. Please tell the person you assist that you are an amateur radio operator.

THE ANSWER MAN.....

One of our club members, Gent Lam, W1CQF, has offered to answer technical questions for our members each month right here in Zero Beat. If you have a technical question, mail your question to the editor, together with any infor-

mation that might be relevant, and look for an answer to your question in the next issue. Please include a SASE if you want your material returned. (no telephone calls, please - (editor)).

HOMEBREW CIRCA 1979

"With the decline of local radio emporiums such as Soundco and Springfield Radio, the homebrew enthusiast is left with a dilemma as to the appropriation of components for his projects. Not only is availability a concern, but inflation has also made its mark.

"During the past year I've adopted a philosophy to build my projects at minimum cost by minimizing purchases of new components. I've found it much more rewarding to construct a project with parts obtained by barter, salvage, or substitution. Some components, because of design or circuit use, have to be purchased new.

"The venerable tube type color television chassis will yield a multitude of components; hefty power transformer and power resistors for a linear or power supply, 3.58 MHz crystal for a digital clock time base, numerous coils, capacitors, and resistors. All those potentiometers and self tapping screws will come in handy someday.

"Another source of components is discarded printed circuit boards used by many local concerns. Many of us know somebody who could obtain small quantities of these if the company could be convinced that the parts would be used for personal projects by radio amateurs. How many of us can desolder components without ruining the parts on the board?

"By the time you've decided that you don't have the part, a quick call on the local repeater will probably bring offers of all kinds. Attend your local radio club meetings and you can trade ideas with other hams who also built a super-whiz-bang thingamabob that didn't work.

"By now you should have an abundant supply of catalogs and flyers. Many magazines have reader service cards which you can fill out and secure a dozen catalogs for the price of a post card. Besides, I like receiving mail other than bills. When searching for parts, compare prices between suppliers and beware of shipping and handling charges. I usually order more than I need when buying by mail, as in the case of IC'S and sockets. It's an easy way to stock your junkbox and it won't appreciably dent your wallet.

"Finally, don't pass up the HCRA auction and flea market. Be open minded- many household items can be readily adopted for project use.

"What better way is there to learn electronics than to troubleshoot a project. It's a relatively painless way to keep up with the state of the art and end up with a nice accessory for your shack. So thumb through those magazines that have been sitting on a shelf since the first and only time you've read them and warm up the soldering iron."

HAPPY HOMEBREWING!!!!!!!!!!

Gent Lam, WAlCQF

AN ODE TO THE INDISPENSABLE MAN

Sometime, when you're feeling important,
Sometime, when your ego's in bloom,
Sometime when you take it for granted
You're the best qualified in the room;
Sometime when you feel that your going
Would leave an unfillable hole,
Just follow this simple instruction
And see how it humbles your soul.
Take a bucket and fill it with water,
Put your hand in it, up to the wrist.
Pull it out, and the hole that's remaining
is the measure of how you'll be missed.

You may splash all you please when you enter,
you can stir up the water galore,
But stop and you'll find in a minute
That it looks quite the same as before.
The moral in this quaint example
Is to do the best that you can.
Be proud of yourself, but remember -
There is no indispensable man.

Anonymous

SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

Larry, WB1CJH, made a few announcements and reviewed our accomplishments this summer including Field Day, The Science Fair, and articles in Ham Radio Horizons and the Springfield Daily News. Larry also presented the program for the coming year.

The highlight for the evening was the speaker, our own Art Zavarella, W1KK, who presented a very illuminating talk on simple wire antennas. Hams and non-Hams alike learned a little more about the fine art(?) of homebrewing antennas from whatever materials that are handy including tomato stakes, coat hangers and grounding wire.

The more than 100 people that attended the meeting seemed to enjoy the evening thoroughly.

Do you know SOMEONE who would be a good club member? INVITE them to one of our meetings and they may want to JOIN.

TIDBITS

Art, WB1FIJ, has been bitten by the camping bug...K1ZQB and WB1BPL have had many action photos of club members in magazines lately... A ham traveling in North Carolina met a MARS ham that knows W1ALL, George...W1LCQF, Gent, passed his amateur extra, CONGRATULATIONS...If you don't believe in miracles, consider this: W1APD passed advanced! FB, Jack...Bob, W1FUV spent the summer at a resort island working...Ollie, N1AFK, took three pieces of traffic from a Navy ship in the Indian Ocean...Barb, W1EHS has had numerous comments about her picture in the August Ham Radio Horizons...Bob, W1DVW is active in the MARS program...Henry, K1AVM has a new grandchild...W1DNB backpacks with a two meter handheld...Bill, K1BNN finally bought a two meter rig...Art, W1KK will be our new Section Communications Manager as of January 1st. FB, Art, and hope the newer hams will come forward to help!!!

CONGRATULATIONS

Art Zavarella, W1KK, will succeed Bill Lowe, W1TM, as Section Communications Manager (SCM) on January 1, 1980. Bill has elected not to run again and leaves his post with our thanks for a job well done. We also know he can leave with peace of mind knowing that his successor will continue with the same high quality of service to amateur radio.

Congratulations to Art Zavarella, W1KK

CONGRATULATIONS

Joe, WB1EMB, has made general. Nice work, Joe.

Jeff, K1BE, is engaged!!!!!! Our best wishes to Jeff and Betsy.....

Duke, KA1DTH passed his novice exam. and can now be found pounding brass on 10 and 15 meters.

THANKS

Our thanks to Andy...WB1BZW...

Rich...W1YYW.....

and Ray, K1CRS....

for the fine job they do in providing coffee and doughnuts at each meeting. The proceeds from the sales go to the Club and help pay for the rental of the hall.

RENTAL OF THE HALL HAS BEEN increased to \$35 from \$15 and that extra quarter you throw in for coffee will help.

THANKS

Thank you to all those hams and non hams who so willingly contributed their time to making the October issue of Zero Beat possible . . .

BROWN BAGGERS
REPORT

Sept. '79 - Meeting place Collegian Court Restaurant, Chicopee.

Well, summer has left us for the most part and the vacations are gone by. Swimming pools are covered and 10 meters is opening up pretty good now. That means fall is upon us. We have already had one Friday night HCRA meeting. With MTRA coming up.

The Brown Baggers meetings have been growing in attendance for the last two weeks or so.

The general topic has been New Towers and Beams or some sort of antenna someone has been thinking about and finally put together.

There has been a lot of upgrading of lic this summer. There will be a lot of new DX chasers this fall on The General Bands and higher.

Some of them with brand new rigs.

This summer I have had the pleasure of seeing some very nice stations like WB1EMN AL ADXERS Dream.

WA1SDY, Don, with his collins twins and now with his new beam. His shack is a place where you can relax and enjoy ham radio.

K1YQQ, Chet, has added a few new goodies to his shack, a new frequency counter and a new tape recorder so he can put all those Navy MARS MSGS on tapes. It won't be long before he throws away all his pencils and pens hihi.

Bert, WB1DTZ, has himself a new rig and judging from the smile on his face when he talks about it, he must be happy. He has even been on CW. more often.

At the last meeting, W1UKR, Unie, won herself a bottle of wine. After three tries, she pulled her own ticket.

Also, our Delta chapter has had some very nice eyeball contacts with Norm, K1FNA, now KX6PI, from the Marshal Islands who stopped by and had lunch with us and announced he is starting a Brown Baggers Chapter out there in the Pacific. So, if at any time you should make contact out there, remember that call and say hi from the Delta Chapter.

W4DGL, Rocky, and his XYL came up from North Carolina and also had lunch with us. He said he will be back in the fall, so we're looking forward to seeing him and his XYL again.

So, if you haven't been able to come and have lunch with us and you find yourself with a Friday afternoon with nothing to do, you want a few laughs and some good conversation, along with good food and a few brown bottles, stop by we're there every Friday at 12:00 noon till you want to call it quits yourself.

So come on in and say hello.

See you there,
WTS1EMB, Joe

CLUB LOGO

Your board of directors wants to establish a club symbol or "logo" to be used on club stationery and the club newspaper. The logo would be used like the ARRL uses the very familiar blue diamond bearing the letters ARRL surrounding an antenna, coil and ground symbol. You are invited to submit your ideas to the club president, Larry, WB1CJH, at a club meeting before March, 1980. The designer of the winning logo will receive a free annual membership and will be honored at the banquet in June. This is the time for all artists and would-be artists to come to the front.

D X CORNER

Hope that you all had a great summer and are raring to go get the rare D X. Hopefully some of the information listed below will be of some help to you. Well, here we go:

For the night hawk or the early bird needing Chatham Island word has it that ZL2UW/C is heard regularly around 14,220 or 14,265 KHz from 0600-0800 UTC. QSL to the C B A (Call Book Address) of ZL2UW.

Look for PYØ (Fernando DeNoronha) to show around September 30. PY2P, PY2GWF and PY2XB will operate 160 - 6 meters using high power and good antennas. QSL via PY2GWF.

FRANZ JOSEF LAND...UK1PAA, operated by Slava (UA4HGF) is presently equipped for cw only. His favorite daily frequencies are 14,005, 14,015, 14,140 and 14,160 KHz. from about 0500 UTC. On Sunday's, UB5UAT runs a list for him on 14,140 at 0500 UTC. A ssb rig is en-route to him and should arrive in early October. Slava expects to get a personal callsign, possibly UK1PAL. QSL to Box 88, Moscow c/o UA1OSM.

MARION ISLAND... As you read this, ZS2MI should have a new rig that was shipped to him from Rhodesia. Johan promises Monday, Wednesday and Friday schedules on 14,240 KHz from 1130 UTC with WA2IZN as MC. He plans to devote the 25th of each month to cw-only for the benefit of the deserving. QSL via WA2IZN.

MALAGASY...Through September 28. HB7OP/5R8 plans daily "split" operations on 14,195 and 28,595 KHz from 2300 - .0100 UTC and at such other times as his work schedule permits. Also according to FY7AN, 5R8AL is back from his vacation but only gets on the air occasionally.

SAN FELIX... CEØXEA is reported to have been issued to the jointly-sponsored DXpedition team of the ARC of Chile and the URE of Spain. The multi-station, all bands effort is set for late September or early October.

GUINEA-BISSAU... W4MGN will join C5ABK for this CR 3 airing beginning December 11.

So. Georgia ... VP8SU Sat., Sun.
+ Mon. - 14,240-WA2JUQ MC at 2100Z
So. DRKNEY - VP 850

CHAD... HSlABD, complete with his radio gear, is now assigned to our embassy in Chad. Fred is hoping for a TTcall. If it is possible this rare one should be heard from. Good luck Fred.

LACCADIVES...A good possibility that this one may finally happen. Be on the watch during January of 1980.

ALBANIA...A contact with ZA could become a reality and possibly soon. AG3 already has been issued a ZA license.

The bug-a-boo is that the Albanian Government has a policy that what comes into the country must stay in the country. If negotiations are successful, expect this at any time.

For those with the competitive spirit, don't forget that the CQ WW DX contests will be held October 27-28 phone, November 24-25 CW. Starts 0000 UTC.

Saturday ends 2400 UTC Sunday. For
official log and summary sheets write to CQ Magazine - 14 Vanderventen Ave., Port Washington, Long Island, N.Y. 11050.

Include a large SASE with 45 cents postage. Well so much for the DX scene until next month. CU on the bands
*GUDDX.

A1, WB1EMN

OUR FACE IS RED . . .

We must announce an error in the September Zero Beat in the article on QSL's:

With each mailing the member must send \$1.00 per pound (or 150 QSL's) and not \$1.00 as stated in the article. Also, an SASE is no longer required since your returned check is verification of receipt of the material at the League.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

info. subject to change without notice

October 13, Saturday

Wellesley Amateur Radio Soc. Tail-gate
Flea Market, rain date Oct. 20.
Wellesley Heathkit parking lot, RT 9
Westbound, Wellesley, Mass. Sellers
fee, 1 car \$4 in advance, \$5 day of
event, Admission \$1. Talk-in on
63/03 and 52 Direct, Info or Resv.
Dick W1ZLQ 762-5074 or W.A.R.S
324 Washington St., Wellesley Hills,
Mass. 02181

October 27, Saturday

Q.R.A. Annual Auction, check-in 10AM
Auction starts at 11 am. Talk-in 52
direct, Refreshments Avail. K of C Hall,
11 Sanborn St., (off of RT. 28), Reading,
Massachusetts

November 11, Sunday

Framingham A.R.C., "Mass Largest Indoor
Ham Flea Market". Rear of Framingham
Police Station. Set-up 9 to 10 a.m.
Doors open 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Food

Hampden County Radio Association
Paul J. Kress, W1ZKT
216 Eastwood Drive
Westfield, MA 01085

avail., advance tables \$5. If any
tables available at the door \$7.50
Talk-in 52 + 15/75 RT 9 to RT 126 South
Bound to Framingham Center, Parking
Avail. Reservations and info. via
PO Box 3005, Framingham, Mass.

November 17, Saturday

Honeywell/Waltham Radio Club Auction,
300 Concord Rd., Billerica, Ma.
Talk-in 04/64 + 72/12, Auction about
11 a.m. Refreshments.

November 23, Friday

Middlesex (Mass.) A.R.C. Annual Auction.
Doors open at 6 p.m. Auction starts
at 7:30, Talk-in 96/36, Mason-Rice
School, Newton Center, Mass.

Other interesting info.

Ray N1CW...Hoss Traders, Derry, New
Hampshire Sunday 4 to 6 p.m. October
thru May - 3940 khz. Tuesday 9 p.m.
25-85



FIRST CLASS MAIL

Zero Beat
October, 1979

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